Proceedings

OF THE

Grand Royal Arch Chapter

OF

Massachusetts,

FROM ITS ORGANIZATION,

1798—1860.

Authorized Edition.

I. VOLUME...II. PARTS.

1876.

PRESS OF COMPS. TYLER & SEAGRAVE,
WORCESTER, MASS.

John H. Mann's

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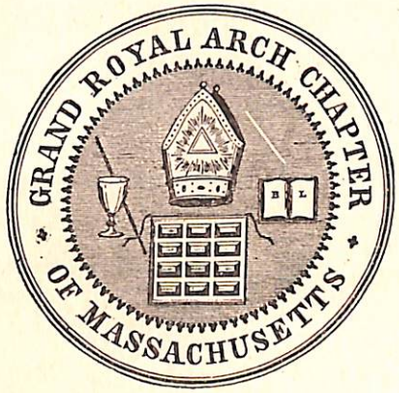

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INTRODUCTION.

Early in 1874, at the suggestion of the then Grand High Priest, a Committee consisting of the Grand Council was authorised by the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts to print its Proceedings from 1798 to 1860, it being conditional that the greater part of the cost should be borne by subscription.

This action was prompted by the many calls made by students of Masonic History for information, which the records alone contained, as well as by the fact that this was one of the original Grand Chapters, and was intimately associated with the history of Royal Arch Masonry in America.

The Committee proposed, by Circular, to print the Proceedings to 1856, in Two Parts, but have continued the work to include 1860, without any increase of price, and have bound the Two in One Volume, together with a roll of all Past High Priests to that period.

We would express our obligations to the printers for valuable assistance rendered, in producing the Work as authorized by the text, and submit it as nearly complete as could be hoped for, feeling well assured that a knowledge of the Capitular Craft will be increased, and Masonic Libraries enriched by it, and that all interested will be wiser by owning and reading it.

ALFRED F. CHAPMAN,
GEO. E. STACY,
JOHN L. KENDALL,
ALEXANDER K. BRYER,
} *Committee.*

BOSTON, February, 1876.

PART I.

Meeting of Chapters.

Formation and Proceedings of the Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts.

1798.

At a Meeting of the Principals of Chapters of Royal Arch Masons within the State of Massachusetts, held agreeably to the sixth section of the CONSTITUTION of the GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER of the Northern States of America, at the Green Dragon, (Mason's Hall), Tuesday, March 13, 5798.

PRESENT:

BENJAMIN HURD, JR.,	M.E. High Priest,	St. Andrew's Chapter.
JAMES HARRISON, . .	E. King,	" "
HENRY FOWLE, . .	E. Scribe,	" "
JONATHAN GAGE, . .	P. King,	King Cyrus Chapter, Newburyport.
GILMAN WHITE, . .	E. Scribe,	King Cyrus Chapter, Newburyport.

M.E. Benjamin Hurd, Jr., was chosen president, and James Harrison, scribe to the meeting.

Resolved, That the meeting now proceed to the choice of officers for the Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter for the year ensuing, which was done, and the President declared the following companions duly elected to the several offices affixed to their respective names, viz.:

Benjamin Hurd, Jr., Most Excellent Deputy Grand High Priest.
Dudley Atkins Tyng, Excellent Deputy Grand King.
James Harrison, Excellent Deputy Grand Scribe.
William Woart, Deputy Grand Secretary.
Rev. Thaddeus Mason Harris, Deputy Grand Chaplain.
Jonathan Gage, Deputy Grand Treasurer.
Joshua Greenleaf, Deputy Grand Marshal.
Gilman White, Sr., Deputy Grand Steward.
Thomas Woodbridge Hooper, Jr., Deputy Grand Steward.
John Martin, Deputy Grand Inside Sentinel.
Robert Newman, Deputy Grand Outside Tyler.

Voted, That M.E. Companions Hurd and Gage be and they hereby are appointed a committee to wait on the Rev. Thaddeus M. Harris, of Dorchester, and inform him of his appointment to the office of Deputy Grand Chaplain to this Deputy Grand Chapter.

Voted, That Companion Gage be requested to notify E. Companion Tyng of his appointment as Grand King.

Voted, That Companion Woart be directed to notify the Deputy Grand Inside Sentinel and Outside Tyler as soon as may be.

Voted, That this Chapter now adjourn until to-morrow afternoon, then to meet at this place at three o'clock.

A true copy, from the minutes of Companion Harrison.

Attest,

WM. WOART,

Deputy Grand Secretary.

SECOND DAY'S MEETING.

At a meeting of the Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter, agreeably to adjournment, March 14th, 5798.

Present:

M.E. Benjamin Hurd, Jr.,	High Priest,	St. Andrew's	Chapter.
E. James Harrison, .	King,	"	"
E. Henry Fowle, .	Scribe,	"	"
M.E. Jonathan Gage, .	High Priest,	King Cyrus	Chapter.
E. Gilman White, .	Scribe,	"	"

Companion Jonathan Gage, the M.E. High Priest of King Cyrus Chapter, the oldest High Priest present, proceeded to instal M.E. Benjamin Hurd Jr., Deputy Grand High Priest, who thereupon installed the other officers, agreeably to ancient usage and custom.

Voted, That the Most Excellent High Priest, Companions William Woart, E. James Harrison, E. Dudley A. Tyng, Jonathan Gage and Joshua Greenleaf, be and they hereby are appointed a committee to form and report a Code of Laws and Regulations for the government of this Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter and all chapters under its jurisdiction.

Voted, That this Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter now adjourn until the Tuesday following the second Monday of June next, then to meet at this place.

Expenses of the house, . . .	£1 9
Book for the record, paper, quills, ink and ink stand, ...	0 12
	£2 1

Paid by St. Andrew's Chapter,	£1	0	6
" " King Cyrus Chapter,	1	0	6
	£2	1	0

A true record of the proceedings of the Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter this evening.

Attest,

WILLIAM WOART,

Deputy Grand Secretary.

ADJOURNED MEETING.

At a Meeting of the Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter, at Mason's Hall, Boston, June 12, 5798, agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT:

M.E. BENJAMIN HURD, Jr., Deputy Grand High Priest.
E. JAMES HARRISON, King, *pro tem.*
WM. WOART, Deputy Grand Secretary.
GILMAN WHITE, Sr., Deputy Grand Steward and Scribe, King Cyrus Chapter.

Voted, That the Chapter adjourn to Monday, the 20th July next, then to meet at Union Hall, in Newburyport.

A true record of the proceedings.

Attest,

WM. WOART,

Deputy Grand Secretary.

NOTE. The day of adjournment is manifestly recorded erroneously. Monday was not the 20th of July. The Chapter assembled July 12, which was not Monday but Thursday.

SPECIAL MEETING.

At a Special Meeting of the Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts, holden at Union Hall, in Newburyport, July 12, 5798.

PRESENT:

M.E. BENJAMIN HURD, Jr., Deputy Grand High Priest.
M.E. DUDLEY ATKINS TYNG, Deputy Grand King.
M.E. JAMES HARRISON, Deputy Grand Scribe.
E. JONATHAN GAGE, Deputy Grand Treasurer.
WM. WOART, Deputy Grand Secretary.
JOSHUA GREENLEAF, Deputy Grand Marshal.
GILMAN WHITE, Sr., Deputy Grand Steward.
HENRY FOWLE, Scribe, St. Andrew's Chapter, Boston.
WILLIAM TARBOX, Deputy Grand Tyler, *pro tem.*

Resolved, That the form of Constitution as reported by the committee appointed for that purpose, and amended by this Deputy Grand Chapter, be and the same is hereby adopted; also the "Rules of Order" reported by the same Committee.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

Regulating Meetings.

That this Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall be holden annually, at Boston and Newburyport alternately, beginning at the first on the 24th of the sixth month (September), at which time the Deputy Grand Officers shall be elected and installed; and in case of sickness or necessary absence the Deputy Grand High Priest or other Grand Officers may be installed by proxy.

ARTICLE II.

Regulating Applications for Warrants.

That every petition for a warrant to open a new chapter of Royal Arch Masons, within the jurisdiction of this Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter, shall be signed by at least nine regular Royal Arch Masons, which petition shall be accompanied with a certificate from the next Chapter nearest the place where the new Chapter is intended to be opened, vouching for the moral character and Masonic ability of the petitioners, and recommending to the Deputy Grand Chapter to grant them a warrant.

ARTICLE III.

Fees.

That the fees for warrants (until the Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall order otherwise), shall be forty dollars; but no warrant shall be granted for opening Lodges of Mark Master Masons, Past Masters, or Most Excellent Masters, independent of the Royal Arch degree.

ARTICLE IV.

Chapters Established. How to be Supplied with Warrants.

That every Chapter of Royal Arch Masons already established within this State, and which shall be under the jurisdiction of this Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter, shall have a warrant signed by the Deputy Grand High Priest, King and Scribe, and countersigned by the Deputy Grand Secretary, confirming them in their rights and privileges as a Royal Arch Chapter, with rank and number according to the date of their establishment, for which warrant each of the said Chapters shall pay to the Deputy Grand Secretary the sum of five dollars, to defray the expense of executing the same.

ARTICLE V.

Dues. How to be Assessed.

That the several Chapters under the jurisdiction of this Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall pay into the hands of the

Treasurer an annual sum for the support thereof in proportion following, to wit: Every Chapter consisting of nine members the sum of three dollars, and for every additional member the sum of twenty-five cents, which said dues shall be paid regularly at the annual communication in September.

ARTICLE VI.

Membership Regulated.

That no Royal Arch Mason shall be a member of two separate and distinct bodies under this jurisdiction at one and the same time.

ARTICLE VII.

Chapters. How Represented.

That every Chapter of Royal Arch Masons under this jurisdiction shall be represented either by their officers in person or by proxy, at the annual communication in September, at which time a return shall be regularly made of the names and numbers of their officers and members.

ARTICLE VIII.

Relating to Candidates.

That no candidate residing in or near any town where a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons is holden under this jurisdiction shall be exalted in any other Chapter without a recommendation from nine members of the Chapter nearest the place where the said candidate may reside, of which the High Priest, King, and Scribe shall be three.

ARTICLE IX.

Relating to Members.

That no Royal Arch Mason shall be admitted a member in any Royal Arch Chapter under this jurisdiction, unless he shall regularly have received the several degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, Master Mason, Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason.

ARTICLE X.

Candidates.

That all applications for the admission of candidates in any Chapter under this jurisdiction shall lay over at least one monthly meeting for the consideration of its members, unless in cases of emergency, when a dispensation from the Deputy Grand High Priest, King or Scribe shall be obtained.

ARTICLE XI.

Officers. How to be Chosen.

That the officers of every chapter under this jurisdiction shall be annually chosen, by ballot, at a regular meeting on the 21st day of the 7th month (October), unless it should happen to be a day of public devotion, in which case on the day following, and installed into their respective offices at the next regular meeting following.

ARTICLE XII.

Illegal Chapters not to be Countenanced.

That no Chapter or Assembly of Royal Arch Masons that may hereafter be formed and opened within this State shall be deemed legal without the sanction of a warrant from this Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter; and Masonic communication, whether public or private, is hereby strictly forbidden between any Chapter under this jurisdiction or any member of them, and any Chapter that may be so illegally opened, or either of their members or any person exalted or advanced in such illegal Chapter, under penalty of expulsion and exclusion from the benefits of this Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter.

ARTICLE XIII.

Grand Officers.

That the Deputy Grand High Priest, King or Scribe of the Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter for the time being shall not, after September, 5799, be an acting officer of any Chapter under this jurisdiction.

PARTICULAR REGULATIONS OR RULES OF ORDER.

ARTICLE I.

Representatives.

Every representative of a Chapter in this Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter, before he can be permitted to take his seat as such, must produce credentials of his appointment from the Chapter he represents.

ARTICLE II.

Badges.

Every member of this Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter must appear at the communication suitably clothed with the badges of a Royal Arch Mason.

ARTICLE III.

Motions.

All motions made in this Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall be handed in writing to the presiding officer for the time being.

ARTICLE IV.

Relating to Method of Working.

Whereas, it is essentially important that the mode of working in the several Chapters under this jurisdiction should be uniformly the same, therefore the better to accomplish this desirable object it shall be the duty of the Deputy Grand High Priest or presiding officer for the time being, to give or cause to be given the Royal Arch and Mark Masons' Lectures, at least once at every general communication of this Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter, so that the officers of the several Chapters may become acquainted with the same and dispense the knowledge of them in an uniform and regular manner in their several Chapters.

ARTICLE V.

Petitioners and Witnesses.

No Companion shall be admitted into this Deputy Grand Chapter but such as are members and voters, except petitioners and witnesses, or those called in by motion, in neither of which cases shall they be admitted to a seat at the table. Provided, however, that this article shall not extend to Stewards for the time being.

ARTICLE VI.

Voting.

No vote of this Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall be reconsidered by a less number of voters than were present at the passing of the same.

Resolved, That Companion Dudley A. Tyng be and he hereby is appointed a committee for the purpose of draughting a form of Charter or Warrant, and report tomorrow, the 13th instant, until which time this Deputy Grand Chapter stands adjourned.

A true record of the proceedings.

Attest,
WM. WOART,
Deputy Grand Secretary.

SECOND DAY'S MEETING.

The Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter met agreeably to adjournment, July 13, 5798.

PRESENT, same as before.

THOMAS W. HOOPER, Deputy Grand Junior Steward.

Resolved, That M.E. Deputy Grand High Priest and Companion William Woart be and they hereby are appointed a Committee, for the purpose of procuring a suitable seal for this Deputy Grand Chapter, and report at the next meeting.

Resolved, That the following form of Warrant, as reported by the Committee appointed for that purpose be and the same hereby is adopted.

To all the Exalted and Enlightened under the Canopy of Heaven, wheresoever assembled or dispersed. The Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter, in and for the State of Massachusetts, Sendeth Greeting.

Be it known, that in pursuance of the power vested in us by the Constitution of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Northern States of America, and for sundry good and sufficient reasons thereunto moving, and being first fully informed of the good moral character, and reposing special trust and confidence in the Masonic abilities of the following Companions of this degree, all resident in or near to the town of A———— in the county of B————, in the State aforesaid, have constituted, and by these presents do constitute, C, D, E, F, G and H, together with all and every their regular associates, companions and successors, into a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, by the name and stile of I. K., to take rank, date and precedence from the ——— day of ———, —— and we do hereby authorise and empower them, the said C, D, E, F, G and H, or any nine of them, from time to time and all times hereafter, to open and hold a Chapter of Royal Arch Masters in the said town of A————, and to exalt, at their discretion, any Master Masons to the degree of Royal Arch Masons; and for that purpose to open and hold Lodges of Mark Masters, Past Masters and Most Excellent Masons, agreeably to the ancient usages and customs of Royal Arch Masons, and also to make and establish any good and wholesome by-laws and regulations for the government of the said Chapter and Lodge, so always as such by-laws and regulations are not contrary to the

Constitution of the said Grand Royal Arch Chapter or of this Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter, and the same at pleasure to alter or repeal; and, further, to order and establish such dues, penalties and fees for the admission of candidates and members as to them or the major part of them and their associates shall seem meet and proper.

And we do hereby enjoin upon the Companions of the said Chapter that they, or any number of them, do not at any time hold any private meetings or assemblies for Masonic purposes, except in the presence of the High Priest, King and Scribe of the said Chapter for the time being, or of one of them, or a Companion of their or either of their appointment; and, further, that they strictly and regularly pay, or cause to be paid annually to this Deputy Grand Chapter all their lawful dues, by the hands of their High Priest, King and Scribe, or their proxies; and it is hereby absolutely required of the said High Priest, King and Scribe for the time being, that they attend regularly, either in person or by their proxies, at all regular communications of this Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter.

In witness whereof, the Most Excellent L. M., Deputy Grand High Priest, hath hereunto set his name and affixed the seal of the said Deputy Grand Chapter, and caused the same to be attested by N. O., Deputy Grand Secretary, this ——— day of ———, A. L.——.

Resolved, That the Deputy Grand Secretary be and he, hereby is directed not to notify any meeting of this Deputy Grand Chapter the 20th instant, as such meeting is hereby declared inexpedient.

A true record of the proceedings.

Attest,

WM. WOART,

Deputy Grand Secretary.

Expenses of the house, ...		$6 00
Paid by St. Andrew's Chapter, . . .	$3 00	
" " Newburyport Chapter, . . .	3 00	
	———	$6 00

SPECIAL MEETING.

At a Special Meeting of the Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter, holden at Mason's Hall, Boston, on the evening of 21st October, 5798 (no meeting having been held in September).

PRESENT:

BENJAMIN HURD, Jr., Most Excellent High Priest.
E. JAMES HARRISON, King, *pro tem.*
HENRY FOWLE, Scribe, *pro tem.*
WM. WOART, Deputy Grand Secretary.
Dea. JOHN MARTIN, Grand Sentinel.
ROBERT NEWMAN, Outside Sentinel.

Adjourned to March 12th ensuing.

Attest,

W. WOART,

Deputy Grand Secretary.

———

ADJOURNED MEETING.

At a Meeting of the Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter, holden at Mason's Hall, Boston, agreeably to adjournment, March 12, 5799.

PRESENT:

M.E. BENJAMIN HURD, Jr., Grand High Priest.
E. JAMES HARRISON, King, *pro tem.*
E. HENRY FOWLE, Scribe, *pro tem.*
WM. WOART, Secretary.
Dea. JOHN MARTIN, Grand Inside Sentinel.
ROBERT NEWMAN, Grand Tyler.

No business.

SPECIAL MEETING.

At a Special Meeting of the Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts, for the choice of officers, April 2, 1799.

PRESENT:

M.E. BENJAMIN HURD, Jr., Grand High Priest.
JAMES HARRISON, King, *pro tem.*
JONATHAN GAGE, for D. A. TYNG and NATHANIEL KNAPP, Scribe, *pro tem.*
JOSHUA GREENLEAF, Treasurer, *pro tem.*
WM. WOART, Grand Secretary.
HENRY FOWLE, King, St. Andrew's Chapter.
EDWARD HOLDEN, Scribe, " "
Dea. JOHN MARTIN, Grand Inside Sentinel.
ROBERT NEWMAN, Grand Tyler.

Resolved, That the doings of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter, at their meeting at Providence, be and the same hereby is ratified and confirmed.

The following Companions were duly elected to the several offices affixed to their respective names:

M.E. BENJAMIN HURD, Jr., Grand High Priest.
M.E. DUDLEY A. TYNG, Deputy Grand High Priest.
JAMES HARRISON, . . Grand King.
JONATHAN GAGE, . . Scribe.
WILLIAM WOART, . . Secretary.
GILMAN WHITE, . . Treasurer.
REV. THADDEUS M. HARRIS, Grand Chaplain.
CHARLES JACKSON, . Grand Marshal.
SAMUEL BILLINGS, . . 1st Grand Steward.
ABRAHAM PERKINS, . 2d Grand Steward.
Dea. JOHN MARTIN, . Grand Inside Sentinel.
ROBERT NEWMAN, . . Grand Outside Tyler.

Resolved, That Companions Jonathan Gage and Joshua Greenleaf be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to notify the officers resident in the town of Newburyport of their appointment.

Resolved, That M.E. B. Hurd and E. James Harrison be also a Committee for the town of Boston.

Resolved, That the Grand Inside Tyler be allowed one dollar for each day's attendance on the Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That Companions Harrison, Gage and Woart be a Committee to make the necessary alterations in the form of warrant confirming Chapters already established in their rights and privileges.

A true record of the proceedings.

Attest,

WM. WOART,

Grand Secretary.

NOTE. The preceding pages comprise the complete history of the formation and work of the Deputy Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts. At this point there seems to be a new departure, the Grand Chapter ceasing to be known as a " Deputy " Chapter and dropping that prefix to its name and title, and taking upon itself the independent distinction and position it has ever since occupied as GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF MASSACHUSETTS. The records, however, seem to be silent in regard to any action of the Grand Chapter upon that matter, only as such action may be indicated by a resolution of the last meeting ratifying and confirming the doings of the General Grand Chapter, at its meeting in Providence, then recently held. That this action of the General Grand Chapter had reference to this change in the relation of its subordinates is possibly evident from the two facts, that the Deputy Grand Chapter of Massachusetts deemed it necessary to "ratify" its doings, and thereafter dropped the "Deputy" from its title without special action as indicated in the records.